

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wiw

For Immediate Release

December 21, 2006

Contact Person

Rita M. Rumbelow
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Stephen Christopher, DOB 06/19/1984, of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 65 months in prison, without the possibility of parole, for being a felon in possession of two firearms and ammunition. Christopher pleaded guilty to this charge on October 16, 2006.

The two firearms, an assault rifle and a shotgun, as well as hundreds of rounds of ammunition, were recovered by law enforcement officers from a home where Christopher was renting a room, after an early morning home invasion occurred there on June 20, 2006. In 2002, Christopher was convicted of felony robbery with use of force for his participation in a home invasion and he was still on probation for that offense in June 2006.

The charge against Christopher was the result of an investigation conducted by the Fitchburg Police Department. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

#